



Short Term Residential Therapeutic Programs

**Dina Kokkos-Gonzales, Chief,
Mental Health Services
Division**

**Kim Suderman, LCSW
CBHDA – CCR Consultant**

**Lanette Castleman, Chief
Program Oversight &
Compliance Branch**

**Henry Omoregie, Chief
Licensing & Certification
Section**

**Autumn Boylan, Chief,
System Compliance Section**



DHCS

Promulgation of Regulations for STRTPs



Promulgation of Regulations

DHCS in consultation with CDSS, shall promulgate regulations regarding STRTPs:

- Program standards and oversight, enforcement
- Issuance of mental health program approvals
- Includes provisional approvals effective for less than one year
- Due Process protections related to the Mental Health Program Approval process



Promulgation of Regulations

DHCS will be implementing and administering these processes through:

- Information Notices or similar written instructions until regulations are adopted.



Transition from RCL 13/14 Certs to STRTP Mental Health Program Approval

RCL 13/14 Certifications

DHCS remains the oversight agency for the group home RCL 13/14 Certifications

- Currently *delegated* to the MHPs
- Renewal by MHP through transition to STRTP or termination



AB 1997 & STRTPs

Bottom Line

- STRTPs will maintain the level of care and services necessary to meet the needs of the children and youth in their care
- STRTPs will maintain and have in good standing the mental health program approval and Medi-Cal certification for Medi-Cal specialty mental health services (SMHS)



AB 1997 & STRTPs

- STRTPs cannot directly provide SMHS without a current Mental Health Program Approval.
- Mental Health Program approval is a condition for receiving an Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Foster Care rate pursuant to Section 11462.01.
- STRTPs that have not yet completed the program approval process must still provide access to appropriate mental health services until their program approval is completed.



STRTP Medi-Cal Certification to Provide Mental Health Services

At a minimum, STRTPs must:

1. Be Medi-Cal Certified to provide the following SMHS as medically necessary
 - a. Mental Health Services
 - b. Crisis Intervention
 - c. Medication Support
 - d. Targeted Case Management
2. Provide access to other mental health services based on individual need



Placement Criteria

The child has been assessed, pursuant to WIC Section 4096, **AND** meets one of the following:

1. Meets the medical necessity criteria for Medi-Cal SMHS per Title 9, CCR, Section 1830.205 or 1830.210; and/or
2. Is seriously emotionally disturbed, as defined in WIC Section 5600.3(a); and/or
3. This level of service is necessary to meet the behavioral or therapeutic needs.



Additional Placement Criteria

Additionally, STRTPs may have a specialized program to serve the following:

- (A) A commercially sexually exploited child.

- (B) A private voluntary placement, if the youth exhibits status offender behavior, the parents or other relatives feel they cannot control the child's behavior, and short-term intervention is needed to transition the child back into the home.



Additional Placement Criteria

(C) A juvenile sex offender.

(D) A child who is affiliated with, or impacted by, a gang.

(WIC Section 11462.01(b)(4))



DHCS Mental Health Program Approval



Components of STRTP Mental Health Program Approval

- Delegation of Program Approval/Certification process
- Application for Mental Health Program Review
- Application for Mental Health Program Renewal Approval
- Medi-Cal Certification



Mental Health Approval and Medi-Cal Certification Process

The STRTP Protocol for the Mental Health Program Approval & Medi-Cal certification are combined:

- Decreases duplication
- Streamlines the process from two (2) reviews into one (1) simultaneous site visit
- The Mental Health Program Approval will be done annually.
- The Medi-Cal certification will be done tri-annually.



Components of STRTP Mental Health Program Approval

- Complaints
- Notice of Non-Compliance
- Imposition of Sanctions
- Notice and Review Procedures (Due Process)



Components of STRTP

Mental Health Program Approval

The major elements added to the STRTP regulations include, but are not limited to:

1. Application content, process, and timelines
 2. Requires a written program plan including contents of the plan
 3. Requires notification to the department, e.g., when there is a change to the mental health program plan
 4. Record Retention
-



Components of STRTP Mental Health Program Approval

The major elements continued....:

5. Documentation requirements includes timelines
6. Psychotropic medication control, e.g., monitoring, documentation, timelines
7. Clinical Review and Continued Stay Determinations
8. In-service education requirements for staff
9. Staff characteristics, qualifications and duties



Due Process Protections

DHCS/MHPs may enforce the mental health program approval standards by taking any of the following actions against a non-compliant STRTP:

- A. Suspend or revoke a mental health program approval.
- B. Impose monetary penalties.
- C. Place a mental health program on probation.
- D. Require a mental health program to prepare and comply with a corrective action plan.



Due Process Protections

- DHCS/MHPs shall provide STRTPs with due process protections when taking any of the actions described above in previous slide.
- DHCS/MHP shall notify CDSS immediately upon the termination of any mental health program approval.



Provisional Mental Health Program Approval for STRTPs



Provisional Mental Health Program Approval for STRTPs

- DHCS/MHP will review Mental Health Program Approval requests.
- STRTPs have 12 months from date of licensure to obtain a mental health program approval that includes a Medi-Cal mental health certification (Sections 4096.5 and 11462.01 of WIC).



Provisional Mental Health Program Approval for STRTPs

- May be necessary if DHCS or a MHP receives a high volume of applications in early 2017
- Allows staggered onsite reviews
- Will create staggered subsequent onsite reviews



Provisional Mental Health Program Approval for STRTPs

- Review of submitted documents (e.g., Application, Program Statement)
- Issued for less than one year
- Within that one year period of time (in most cases within 3 months of Provisional approval) the full onsite review will be conducted



Two Types of Provisional Mental Health Program Approval

1) EXISTING RCL TRANSITIONING TO STRTP

- A desk review (off site) for provisional approval of the STRTP's application and program description may be scheduled.
- Upon provisional status, the facility would be scheduled for an onsite review
- The full site review and approval date will set the annual rotation date.



Two Types of Provisional Mental Health Program Approval

B) BRAND NEW STRTPS

1. DHCS/MHP completes "initial" site review
 - a. Checks that basic requirements are met
 - b. Determines implementation readiness
 - c. Provides TA for full site review
2. If the above are met: Approves Provisionally
 - a. Allows the STRTP to begin operations



Two Types of Provisional Mental Health Program Approval

B) BRAND NEW STRTPS

3. DHCS/MHP will complete the full review within approximately 3 months from first admit.
4. Annual reviews thereafter



Medi-Cal Certification for Specialty Mental Health Services



Medi-Cal Certification for SMHS

Medi-Cal certification:

- Beneficiary Informing Materials
- Facility Inspection
- Policies and Procedures
- HIPAA/Confidentiality/Security of Protected Health Information



Medi-Cal Certification for SMHS

DHCS/MHP will accept evidence obtained from the Licensure process that is already covered as part of the licensing requirements to satisfy applicable Medi-Cal Certification requirements, **for example:**

- A copy of the Licensing Packet may be provided with tabs and labels identifying applicable evidence for for Medi-Cal Cert requirements.
- MOUs, Letters, Copies of Licenses/Contracts



Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS)



What are Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS)

CA Code of Regs, title 9, section 1810.247 (a),
Specialty Mental Health Services means:

Rehabilitative Mental Health Services include:

1. Mental Health Services which includes but is not limited to Assessment, plan development, therapy, rehabilitation, and collateral
2. Medication Support Services
3. Day Treatment Intensive
4. Day Rehabilitation
5. Crisis Intervention
6. Crisis Stabilization



What are Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 7. Crisis Residential Treatment Services | 11. Psychiatrist Services |
| 8. Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) Services | 12. Psychologist Services |
| 9. Psychiatric Inpatient Hospital Services | 13. EPSDT Supplemental SMHS Services – TBS*, ICC*, IHBS* |
| 10. Targeted Case Management | 14. Psychiatric Nursing Facility Services |

See Definitions of Terms in CCR, title 9, sections 810.200 – 1810.254

- *Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS); *Intensive Care Coordination (ICC);
*In-Home Behavioral Services (IHBS)



Discussion

- Positions—1 or separate?
 - Head of Service combined with Mental Health “Program Director”—Required by DHCS
 - Administrator—Required by CCL
- Medi-Cal Certification
 - Original Medi-Cal Certification
 - Piggy Backing on original Medi-Cal Cert



Discussion

- Program Approval—Approval Agency must
 - Track Approvals
 - Monitor for Compliance—Set and collect Fines
 - Address Complaints as per Medi-Cal Complaint Protocol
 - Time Lines
 - Tracking
 - Resolution



Discussion

Potential Scenarios for Services

- STRTP provides all services
- MHP and STRTP share service delivery, eg:
 - Individual Therapy—MHP County
 - Group Therapy—ST RTP
 - Med Support/as needed and 24/7—ST RTP
 - Med Support/Psychiatrist—MHP County
 - Case Management—ST RTP & MHP County



Thank You!

ANY QUESTIONS?

